

## FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

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TO:	EXAMINER S. WASYLCHAK
COMPANY/FIRM:	U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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FACSIMILE NO.:	1-703-872-9306 AND 1-703-308-2048

FROM:	Jim Retter
COMPANY/FIRM:	Ware, Fressola, Van Der Sluys & Adolphson LLP
PHONE NO.:	(203)261-1234
FACSIMILE NO.:	(203)261-5676

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WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS & ADOLPHSON  
BRADFORD GREEN, BUILDING FIVE  
755 MAIN STREET, MONROE, CONNECTICUT 06468  
TELEPHONE NO. (203) 261-1234  
FACSIMILE NO. (203) 261-5676

## COMMENTS

SERIAL NO. 09/368,996  
ATTY. DOCKET 2-604.2-1

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Serial No. 09/368,996  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Inventor: Barber, Timothy P.  
Serial No.: 09/368,996  
Filed: August 5, 1999  
Title: Method for Billing for Services Delivered Over a Computer Network  
Group Art Unit: 2164  
Examiner: S. Wasylchak

INFORMAL COMMUNICATION

NOT FOR ENTRY  
(VIA FACSIMILE: 703-872-9306)

1. A method of billing, by a third party, for access by a consumer to information made available by a vendor over a computer network, with the billing based on how long the consumer elects to access the information, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) when a consumer visits a vendor network address and decides to purchase access to information made available over the computer network by the vendor, having the consumer exercise a third-party link that will connect the consumer to the third party;
- b) having the third party provide to the consumer an exercisable start-session link for starting access to the information; and
- c) having the third party both begin timing access and redirect the consumer to the information if the consumer exercises the start-session link;

wherein the third-party link and the start-session link are links on respective pages for presentation to the consumer by a browser hosted by equipment operated by the consumer, and further wherein the computer network is the Internet and the third party and the consumer are connected via the Internet (based on page 6, line 11, and page 2, line 12).

Dec. 15, 2004  
Date

WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS  
& ADOLPHSON LLP  
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224  
Monroe, CT 06468-0224

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Retter  
Registration No. 41,266

tel: (203) 261-1234  
Cust. No.: 004955